

# Finding Supplementary Readings Online

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Adding supplements to the civic engagement curriculum can be a good way to keep participants engaged. Book excerpts, text from speeches, and articles about civic engagement can be read as a group and then discussed to further explore the concepts in the curriculum.

Searching for these resources online can be a process. The sources below provide a variety of different places to begin your search.

## Search Engines or Archives

### American Rhetoric

<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/>

- ⇒ American Rhetoric is an online speech-bank of well-known American speeches. They include speeches from U.S. Presidents and public figures such as Martin Luther King, Jr. Often the full text of the speech is provided on the site, but sometimes it sends you to other sites where you may need to continue searching for a specific speech.

### Constitution Society Search Page

<http://www.constitution.org/search.htm>

- ⇒ The Constitution Society provides the text of Constitutional and Founding documents. Their search page gives you the opportunity to search for what you are looking for through a variety of available search engines.

### Google Books

<http://books.google.com/>

- ⇒ Google Books allows you to search through the full text of books and offers preview pages from many books. It does not allow you to copy and paste or print those previews. However, if you click on "About this Book" it will take you to additional resources, including other places where passages or references can be found online, links to buy the book or borrow it from a library, references to it, and books on related subjects.

### Google Scholar

<http://scholar.google.com/>

- ⇒ Google Scholar allows you to search scholarly literature, including research publications, articles in scholarly journals, academic books, and more. Unlike Google Books, however, it works more like the regular Google search engine: it merely provides you a link to where the resource is found or referenced online (sometimes the links send you to Google Books, however). Be aware that scholarly writing may not be easily accessible (visually or with reading comprehension) for participants and plan ahead if you plan to use scholarly text during CE sessions.

### Project on Civic Reflection: Resource Library

[http://www.civicreflection.org/online\\_tools/resource\\_library/](http://www.civicreflection.org/online_tools/resource_library/)

- ⇒ The Project on Civic Reflection is maintained by the same organization that published The Civically Engaged Reader. Their Resource Library is a searchable archive of readings related to civic engagement. Elsewhere on the site are tools to help guide facilitators through leading a discussion.

## **Current Research, Articles, and Information**

### **Ascribe Livewire**

<http://www.ascribe.org/livewire.html>

- ⇒ Ascribe is a public interest newswire. Public sector institutions across the country use Ascribe to disseminate their press releases and news to the mainstream media. Ascribe's Livewire aggregates their latest news items. Although they don't have a specific section on civic engagement, it is possible to search the Livewire for civic engagement related stories.

### **Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE)**

<http://www.civicyouth.org/>

- ⇒ CIRCLE provides current research and data on civic engagement and learning among youth and young people. They offer short briefs and more detailed reports on trends in areas such as voting and volunteerism among young people.

### **HandsNet: Civic Engagement News**

[http://www.handsnet.org/civic\\_engagement.php](http://www.handsnet.org/civic_engagement.php)

- ⇒ HandsNet aggregates human services news and articles. Their civic engagement feed offers a wide variety of information related to civic engagement, including briefs on the latest research. The site often links directly to the online press release from the issuing organization.